

Remarks:

Claims 1, 3-13, 21 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Coultas et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,304,279. Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Coultas et al. in view of Khater et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,459,066.

Claims 1-24 are being canceled. Claims 25-27 remain.

Applicant respectfully, traverses the rejection of claims 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Entry of this amendment is requested. The amendment, which only cancels claims, raises no new matter. Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 25-27 is requested.

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Independent claim 25 claims an electrical-circuit inductor having features that Coultas et al. fails to disclose. Accordingly, the reference does not anticipate claims 25-27. Coultas et al. fails to disclose “a conductor formed of a sheet of electrically conductive material in the shape of at least one loop having opposite edges encircling an axis” in which the sheet has:

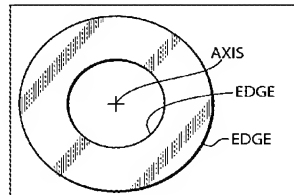
“a pair of terminal ends” defined by “a gap extending between the opposite edges” ... [and]

“a serpentine conductive path between the terminal ends” that is defined by “a plurality of cutouts alternately spaced in the opposite edges”.

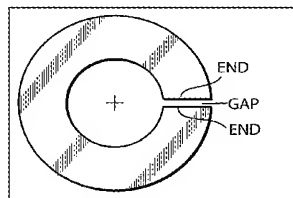
A “serpentine path” is one that has a plurality of opposite curves, like a letter “S”, for example. Coultas et al. discloses a conductor that is formed as a continuous spiral, and not by alternately spaced cutouts defining a serpentine path. In addition, the conductor of Coultas et al. has terminal ends spaced by plural edge-to-edge turns of the spiral, not ends that are defined by a gap that extends between opposite edges of a sheet.

Claim 25 can be demonstrated by constructing the claimed inductor in a simple form as follows:

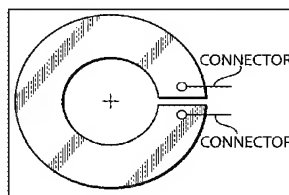
- 1) “a conductor formed of a sheet of electrically conductive material in the shape of at least one loop having opposite edges encircling an axis”;



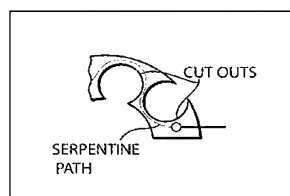
- 2) “a gap extending between the opposite edges and defining a pair of terminal ends;”



- 3) “a pair of RF connectors, one fixed to each of the terminal ends;”



and, 4) “a plurality of cutouts alternately spaced in the opposite edges defining a serpentine conductive path between the terminal ends”.



Application No. 10/766,505
Amendment dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 6, 2006

Coultas et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,304,279 does not disclose this combination of features, and therefore does not anticipate independent claim 25 and dependent claims 26 and 27. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) must be withdrawn.

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Claims 25-27 are allowable. The remaining claims have been canceled, thereby mooted the other rejections. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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